

**Hawaii Department of Agriculture - Pesticides Branch
1st Quarter Report; EPA Region IX
Oct – Dec 2013**

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Training/Conference attended:

- HDOA Pesticides Branch Annual Training – Nov 21 -22, 2013, Honolulu, Hawaii. All pesticides staff attended as well as individuals from Guam EPA (Betwin Alokoa and Karl Olson) and American Samoa EPA (Fa'auuga Laititi).
- SFIREG Meeting held Dec 9 -13, 2013, Arlington, VA. - Tom Matsuda currently serves as the EPA Region 9 representative to SFIREG.

Personnel:

- In November 2013, Monica Tauyan was hired as an Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) in the Registration/Licensing section.
- In December 2013, Hawaii Island Pesticide Inspector Glenn Sahara, retired after serving 28 years with the HDOA. EHS Ann Kam (Kauai) is temporarily assigned to provide oversight to inspectors Lester Chin (Maui) and Chris Gerken (Hawaii Island).

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

Legislative:

HB 673 H.D. 2, S. D. 2, C.D. 1, enacted as Act 105.

- Requires that the HDOA post on its website public information on restricted use pesticide (sales) reports and records submitted to the HDOA. We continue to work with our Attorney General to determine information from sales records that are to be redacted to protect confidential business information or significant private information. No date set when posting will occur on HDOA website.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 129 HD2 SD1:

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS TO ADDRESS THE DATA GAP ON AIR, SURFACE WATER, AND NEAR SHORE EFFECTS OF ATRAZINE.

A 63 page report was submitted to the 27th Legislature of Hawaii 2013. This report was prepared by the SOH Department of Health Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office. That report can be accessed at the following link:

<http://lauhala.com/hinano/20131226-011422-DOH-Atrazine12-13.pdf>

REGISTRATION/LICENSING:

A total of 2,330 product licenses were processed for this quarter, with fees collected totaling \$768,900. Of these, 2,222 were license renewals.

Special Local Needs (Section 24(c))

SLN HI-980005 was renewed for use of Ramik Mini Bars All-Weather Rat & Mouse Killer (EPA Reg. No. 61282-26) in forests, off-shore islands, and other areas to control small Indian mongoose, roof rats, Norway rats, Polynesian rats, and house mice. A Section 7 informal consultation request was submitted to the Fish & Wildlife Service to mitigate any concerns with potential for effect on threatened or endangered species. Through this process, SLN label language was amended to include specific restrictions limiting potential for off-target application.

Section 18 Emergency Exemptions

Section 18 for HopGuard for control of Varroa mite in beehives expired 12/31/2013. No request for renewal received.

Experimental Use Permit (EUP)

1 EUP Issued for use of Altriset (EPA Reg. No. 100-1503), active ingredient chlorantraniliprole, to determine efficacy of control of subterranean termites around structures. No commodity will be treated.

Groundwater reviews

Penflufen - completion of full groundwater review by UH. This review determined that penflufen is likely to leach in Hawaii type soils. The product containing this active was licensed because it is an indoor use only. However, if outdoor uses are added to the registration or new products come in with outdoor uses, this active is required to be restricted.

Endangered Species Review

1 Section 7 informal consultation was sent for the 4 pending SLN's for use of rodenticides (see below list). This Section 7 is still pending.

HI-980005 Ramik Mini-Bars for use to control rats, mice, and mongoose in forests, offshore islands and other areas to protect native Hawaiian plants and animals

HI-980006 Ramik Mini-Bars for use to control rats and mice in macadamia

HI-080001 Rozol Mini Blocks for use to control rats and mice in & around tropical nut & fruit orchards, as well as corn & soybean grown for seed

HI-080002 Rozol Pellets for use to control rats and mice in tropical nut & fruit orchards, as well as corn or soybean grown for seed only, and around sugar cane fields

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS LABORATORY (CAL):

- A total of 130 tests were run for 39 samples pertaining to 6 enforcement cases this quarter. All of these samples were finished by the LC/MS equipment.
- A total of 136 tests were run for 10 samples pertaining to 1 batch EPA check samples. Samples were finished by the LC/MS and GC/MS equipment.
- Ten (10) tests run for 10 samples pertaining to 1 batch of FERN samples were finished by the LC/MS equipment.
- A new high resolution LC/MS is being looked at for purchase to replace the 7 year old Varian 1200L LC/MS system. Currently 80% of the samples are analyzed by LC/MS. The Varian 1200L System is considered obsolete by the manufacturer.

EDUCATION/CERIFICATION:

Applicator Certification and Training Work plan:

- A total of 17 statewide certification examination sessions were held.
- One hundred ten (110) examinees were tested in Private applicator or Commercial applicator categories.
- Out of these examinations, 24 individuals became newly certified applicators and another 32 individuals were re-certified in their appropriate work profession categories.
- Twenty-three (23) certified applicators collectively earned 111 recertification credits by taking quizzes.
- Seventeen (17) CET training classes were held and attended by 720 certified applicators. These attendees collectively earned 1,320 recertification credits.

Worker Safety Program Work plan:

- Four (4) Worker Protection Standard training sessions were provided to these farms or groups: Big Island Ag Product, Maui DLNR, Oahu - Pacific Island EPA, Maui - Maui Community College

Class (farmers & non-farmers). A total of 28 individuals participated in the WPS agricultural worker or handler trainings.

Other trainings provided by Pesticide Education staff included topics on:

- Proper Pesticide Use and Safety – Pahala Community Center
- Label Interpretation
- Pollinator Protection Class (Maui and Oahu)
- U. S. Department of Labor, Wages & Hour Division
- Basil Growers Multi –Agency Workshop; Pesticide Rotation & updates
- IPM Safety Training (Maui DLNR and the Hawaii Pest Control Association)

A total of 258 individuals attended these trainings.

ENFORCEMENT:

Oahu:

There were 2 High Level Episodes on Oahu reported to EPA Region 9 during this period.

1. HLE: On the evening of 11/24/13, an applicator sprayed the front yard of his residence with a pesticide product that he obtained from his neighbor. The applicator was told that the pesticide was an herbicide product. On 11/26/13, The Honolulu Fire Department responded to an odor complaint near Kaimiloa and Pohakea Elementary Schools in Ewa Beach. They reported that the pesticide was a suspected Malathion product emitting from the applicator's property. One child (girl) was transported to a hospital and returned to school the next day.
 2. HLE: On 11/27/13, an applicator sprayed Malathion to his yuzu lime tree. His dilution exceeded the rate of application and the crop was not on label. The crop yuzu lime tree is not listed on the label on file at the HDOA although staff believes that it could be used on oranges and grapefruit. Two children went to the hospital, although 16 complained of illness. All children were back at school the next day.
- Nine (9) Agricultural use inspections were conducted in Punaluu Valley on property owned by Kamehameha School Bishop Estate (KSBE). There appears to be a high suspected violation rate of approximately 88%. Some of the suspected violations were site, dilution, PPE, disposal, and WPS. Referrals for training were made with the Pesticide Education staff and the Senior Land Operations Manager for KSBE.

Maui/Molokai:

On 10/01/13, a complaint via email was received from a Kihei resident. Complainant listed two dates that they were subject to "chemical blasts" during the evening by Monsanto Company personnel. Monsanto Company fields are about 0.55 miles away. An investigation was conducted at the complainant's residence. There were thirty nine (39) pesticides and about seven other chemicals found in storage shed set next to the complainant's closed bedroom window. This case is currently under review. The complainant recently sold their Kihei residence and is presently looking for a home in another area on Maui.

Kauai:

- The Good Neighbor Policy reporting began on December 1st, 2013. Several seed corn and one coffee company will report to the HDOA Pesticides Branch pesticides used on a monthly basis.
- Seven complaints were filed between October and December 2013. Four of these were against the seed corn companies. One complaint was filed about the time the "Good Neighbor Policy" was in effect. The complainant also called the County of Kauai to file the complaint. These four complaints were investigated and No suspected violations were documented.

- A Malathion complaint was filed in late December by the Boys and Girls Club and Wilcox Elementary School. The applicator was located 5 homes and three streets away from the school (approximately 800 feet) and 1,600 feet away from the Boys and Girls Club. About 98 children and adults were affected by the odor at the Boys and Girls Club. Symptoms were dizziness, nausea and just feeling sick. No one sought medical attention. The Kauai Police Department located the resident who made the application. The odor dissipated after the homeowner watered down the yard. The applicator overdosed and the Malathion was very old product.

Hawaii Island:

- A resident of Fern Forest Subdivision in Mt. View, had concerns over what herbicide was being used for roadside weed control. Complainant and 5 other residents filed complaints. The herbicide Crossbow was applied. Suspected violation: Crossbow not allowed for use within 250 feet down wind of a sensitive area (i.e., residences, and non-target crops). Residents have fruit trees/ gardens within 250' of roadside.
- A homeowner in Mt. View, Hawaii called the National Response Center to report a toxic cloud in her residence that made 2 occupants sick. Mary Grisier, EPA Region 9 forwarded this complaint to inspector C. Gerken. Complainant suspected that a pesticide was dumped along the roadside although no dumping was observed by complainant. Gerken visited the site and could not determine a source or evidence of any pesticide dumping.

(Enforcement statistical numbers will be reported by Avis in the 5700-33H Form.)

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

IPM In Schools:

The selection of the vendor for the IPM Pilot Project at Ala Wai Elementary School was awarded to a local Pest Control Company (Diversified Exterminators). This company has set up a monitoring program at the school to determine pest levels.

Development of WPS Handler and Worker narrated slideshow.

- Work continues on the development of a written script in English with the next phase having translators convert the English script into Ilocano, Laotian, Mandarin, Cantonese and Tagalog. We anticipate completing this slide show before the end of the program year.

Development of IPM informational booklet for local public schools Grades 1 – 5: On-going development activity.

Development of Crop Grouping for mobile app: On-going activity. Discussed concept with staff. Will seek out vendor to further develop.

Development of Label Search: On-going activity.

Endangered Species Protection Work plan:

(No activities scheduled)